JAN 28 2000

NDA 18-700/S-019

Sanofi-Synthelabo Inc.
Attention: Ms. Laurie Lenkel
90 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Ms. Lenkel:

Please refer to your supplemental new drug application dated December 20, 1999, received December 22, 1999, submitted under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for Inocor (amrinone lactate) Injection.

This supplemental new drug application provides for final printed labeling revised under **INDICATIONS AND USAGE** to reflect better the short-term only usage of amrinone as follows:

> Inocor is indicated for the short-term management of congestive heart failure. Because of limited experience and potential for serious adverse effects (see **ADVERSE REACTIONS),** Inocor should be used only in patients who can be closely monitored and who have not responded adequately to digitalis, diuretics, and/or vasodilators. Experience with intravenous amrinone in controlled trials does not extend beyond 48 hours of repeated boluses and/or continuous infusions.
>
> Whether given orally, continuously intravenously, or intermittently intravenously, neither amrinone nor any other cyclic-AMP-dependent inotrope has been shown in controlled trials to be safe or effective in the long-term treatment of congestive heart failure. In controlled trials of chronic oral therapy with various such agents (including amrinone), symptoms were not consistently alleviated, and the cyclic-AMP-dependent inotropes were consistently associated with increase risks of hospitalization and death. Patients with NYHA Class IV symptoms appeared to be at particular risk.

We note that in addition, there were several minor editorial changes.

We have completed the review of this supplemental application and have concluded that adequate information has been presented to demonstrate that the drug product is safe and effective for use as recommended in the submitted final printed labeling (package insert included in your December 20, 1999 submission). Accordingly, the supplemental application is approved effective on the date of this letter.

We remind you that you must comply with the requirements for an approved NDA set forth under 21 CFR 314.80 and 314.81.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Edward Fromm
Regulatory Project Manager
(301) 594-5313.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Lipicky, M.D.
Director
Division of Cardio-Renal Drug Products
Office of Drug Evaluation I
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